HOA & Community Presentations

Everything depends on clean water- our health, recreation, the economy, drinking water, wildlife, and aesthetics- just to name a few. Unfortunately, polluted stormwater runoff negatively impacts our water resources.

Did you know that you can protect and improve the quality of our waterways through your everyday actions at home?!? Schedule a ***free*** presentation for your next HOA or community group meeting to find out how. This free, informative presentation focuses on stormwater pollution and how we are all part of the solution to water pollution.

To schedule a presentation or find out more:

NH Soil & Water Conservation District
Shelly Miller - Community Conservationist
(910) 798-6032 or Shelly.Miller@nhswcd.org

City of Wilmington ~ Stormwater Services
Jennifer D. Butler - Outreach Coordinator
(910) 343-4777 or Jennifer.Butler@wilmingtonnc.gov

PUBLIC SERVICES
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Director

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(910) 343-4777
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Manager

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Planning/Mapping Manager

Jim Quinn
Senior Engineering Technician

Alicia Herrmann
Engineering Technician

Pat Higgins
Administrative Support

STORMWATER MAINTENANCE
(910) 341-4646
Harvey London
Drainage Manager

BILLING & COLLECTIONS
(910) 341-7806

Stormwater Services

Stormwater Services maintains and improves the public drainage system for the protection of our community and the environment.

PO Box 1810
Wilmington, NC 28402-1810
(910) 343-4777 or Dial 711 TTY/Voice
www.wilmingtonnc.gov

Stormwater Services Has Moved!
Our new office location is:
209 Coleman Drive (near the intersection of River Road and Independence Blvd.)
For more info, call (910) 343-4777.

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CITY OF WILMINGTON STORMWATER SERVICES

Stormwater Watch Newsletter

Fall 2006 ~ Annual Report Issue

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Maintaining Wilmington's BMPs: *The Stormwater BMP Crew*

Leading by example with innovative approaches to stormwater management, the City of Wilmington established a crew to maintain City-owned Best Management Practices (BMPs). A BMP is an on-the-ground practice that improves the quality and reduces the quantity of stormwater runoff. Examples of BMPs are stormwater retention ponds, constructed wetlands, bioretention areas, and stabilized stream banks. Currently, the City owns and maintains more than 40 stormwater BMPs and the list continues to grow.

Led by crew leader, **Carl Scott,** the five man BMP Crew consists of **David Bell, Julius Brown, Jimmy Wallace, and Calron Williams.** They perform regular maintenance on each BMP including trash removal, mowing, unblocking culverts, hand harvesting aquatic weeds, stabilizing eroding stream banks, repairing washouts, and ditch maintenance. The crew is especially busy after heavy rain events like recent Tropical Storm Ernesto which caused washouts and severe bank erosion in several ponds.

The crew maintains BMPs ranging in size from small retention ponds to large-scale projects like the Kerr Avenue & Wallace Park Wetlands. The crew is aware that there will be additional BMPs to maintain as the City works to improve water quality, but they acknowledge that BMPs are easier to maintain and more effective at managing stormwater if they're on a regular maintenance schedule.

BMP Maintenance Crew (Back) Jimmy Wallace, Carl Scott, Julius Brown (Front) Calron Williams, David Bell.

Scott spoke about the challenges of maintaining Greenfield Lake, which requires regular trash removal into remote areas of the lake and maintenance of the SolarBee aeration devices, which oxygenate the water. To maintain the SolarBees, crews must reach into the water several feet to free the blades of grass and debris. Scott says he often thinks about alligators while doing this and has actually seen a 12 foot alligator sunning itself along the lake.

Another ongoing task for the crew is keeping invasive, aquatic weeds in check which sometimes requires physical hand harvesting. An important element of keeping invasive weeds at bay is practicing proper maintenance of the watercraft used to maintain each BMP. To prevent the spread of aquatic weeds to other waterways, the crew must thoroughly clean and spray the bottom of the boats each time they are pulled from the water.

Scott, whose staff is also skilled at using heavy equipment for open drainage projects, is proud of the work his BMP crew performs and realizes it makes a difference for the community. Scott says "The job is always a challenge, there's never a dull moment. My crew works hard and has a good work ethic. If there wasn't a crew to maintain these BMPs, we'd have poor water quality flowing into our river and streams, have overgrown ponds, clogged pipes and culverts, and even more flooding."

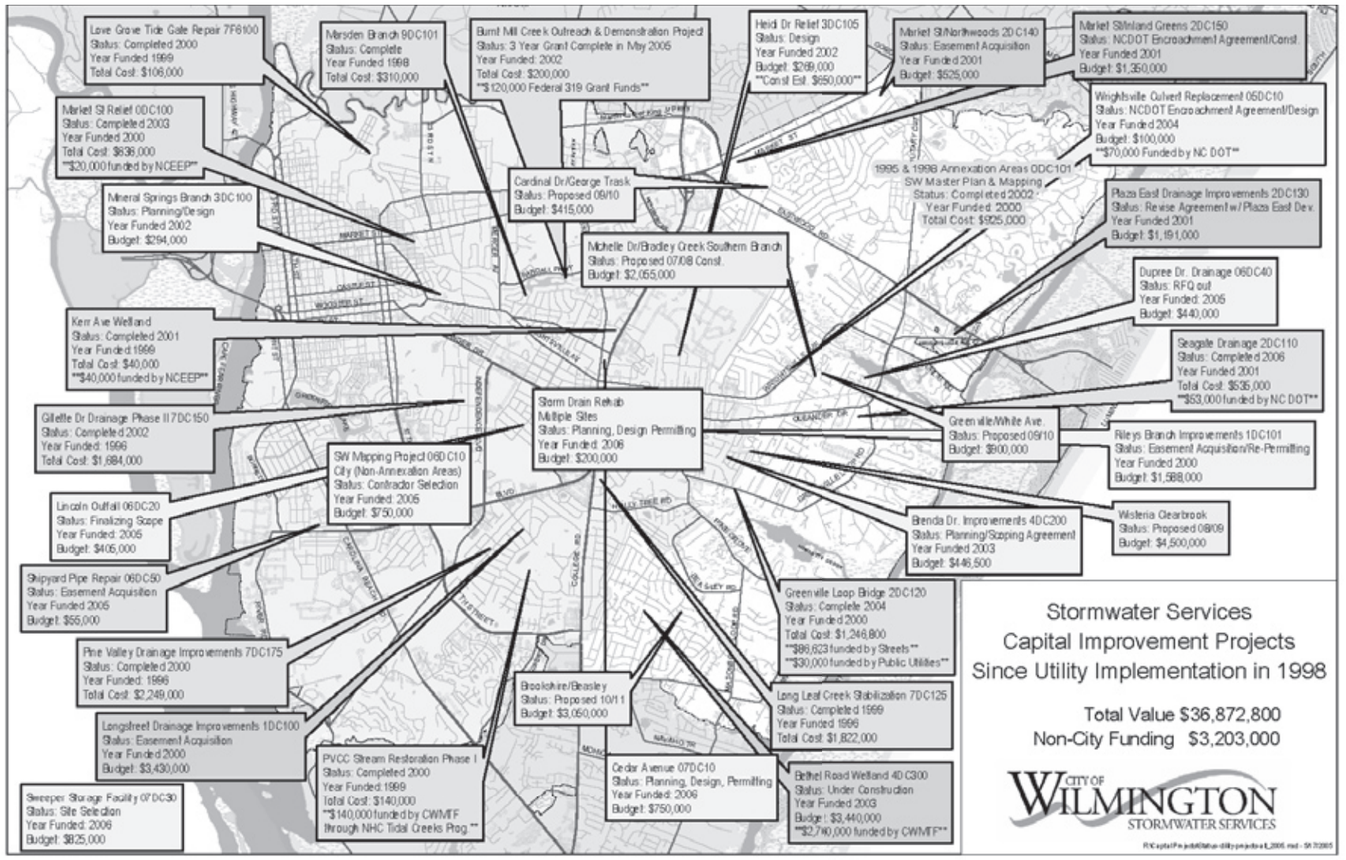
Crew members Jimmy Wallace and David Bell echo these sentiments and add that helping the community is a positive aspect of the job for them. They enjoy meeting citizens who appreciate their contribution to the betterment of Wilmington and our waterways. However, both Bell, Wallace, and the rest of the BMP crew wish the community would realize the impacts of actions like littering, not picking up after pets, and dumping yard waste into storm drains, which affect the community and eventually the entire state.

Stormwater Services maintenance crews perform in-house drainage improvement projects throughout the year.

These projects consist of installing new pipes, culverts, manholes, and road repair and are an essential element in maintaining the storm drainage system throughout the City of Wilmington.

In-House PROJECTS

PROJECT LOCATION	COST $
1204 43rd St.	$3,158.77
1606 Azalea Dr.	$4,682.79
3301 Bragg Dr.	$7,961.24
4300 Blk Appleton Way	$2,083.40
218 Buccaneer Rd.	$64,975.11
3413 Chalmers Dr.	$5,949.14
4300 Blk Fairlawn Dr.	$18,959.95
329 Kelly Rd.	$4,071.96
W. Lakeshore Dr. (FT Tower)	$5,222.37
Masonboro Sound Rd. (Mason Knoll)	$63,230.81
Orchard Trace	$26,082.82
627 Pine Valley Dr.	$3,295.47
Station Rd.	$32,225.40
434 Tanbridge Rd.	$2,118.71
Wrightsville Ave. & Greenville Ave.	$2,039.26
TOTAL	**$246,057.20**



Capital Projects Map

STORMWATER RUNOFF is a major cause of property flooding and water quality impairment. To address these issues, Stormwater Services implements **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS** throughout the City. These projects aim to improve and maintain the storm drainage system, reduce flooding issues, and improve water quality.

Capital projects involve 5 major stages from start to finish:

1) **PLANNING**
2) **DESIGN & PERMITTING**
3) **EASEMENT ACQUISITION**
4) **CONTRACTOR SELECTION & CONSTRUCTION**
5) **PROJECT COMPLETION**

The status, location, and costs of current, complete, and future stormwater capital projects are shown on the map *(left)*.

Stormwater 101: Yard Waste

Keep those leaves out of the storm drain!

Blowing leaves and other yard debris into streets and storm drains can have a huge impact on our waterways. Yard waste can clog storm drains causing your street and/or property to flood. Yard waste that *does* wash down storm drains flows straight into our creeks, river, and Intracoastal Waterway adding excessive nutrients and causing poor water quality.

Instead, compost yard waste, bag it for collection day, or grasscycle! Grasscycling is leaving grass clippings on the lawn to breakdown and act as a natural fertilizer. They breakdown quickly and return nutrients to the soil, reducing the need for fertilizer.

Stormwater Utility ~ Maintenance Chart

Fiscal Years 98/99 thru 05/06

Maintenance Description	Unit	FY 98/99	FY 99/00*	FY 00/01	FY 01/02	FY 02/03	FY 03/04	FY 04/05	FY 05/06
Clean Structures	Each	11,990	12,143	9,069	6,922	12,919	11,931	13,158	11,908
Clean Lines	Linear ft.	336,716	406,966	260,231	315,716	241,167	154,511	161,597	123,931
Cave-in Repair	Each	235	470	497	314	294	280	293	277
Structure Repair	Each	105	70	121	118	116	105	110	101
Construct Structures	Each	32	4	42	39	26	41	29	21
Reset Structure Covers	Each	322	238	198	289	227	257	240	258
Replace Structure covers	Each	162	198	192	174	182	150	153	191
Ditch Cleaning (hand)	Linear ft.	178,674	361,300	307,554	470,683	346,282	349,416	332,567	196,530
Slope Mowing	Linear ft.	938,379	859,788	502,642	564,023	450,866	528,310	538,559	468,543
Right-of-Way Mowing	Acres	147	123	175	181	159	194.13	181.29	177.28
Culvert Cleaning	Each	383	632	162	757	1,471	814	1570	921
Sweep Streets	Miles	9,157	11,400	13,310	15,685	13,337	13670	9704	9,801
Street Sweeping Disposal	Truckloads	409	545	773	886	888	961	859	761